1	2	3	4	4
21.	Sinhala	Sri Lanka	7	2
22.	Swahili	East Africa	8	8
23.	Tamil	S-E Asia and Sri Lanka	3	2
24.	Telugu	S-E Asia	Nil	Nil
25.	Thai	S-E Asia	5	3
26.	Tibetan	Tibet autonomous region of Peoples Republic of China	7	7
27.	Urdu	Pakistan/Indian Sub Continent	9	5

(d) Some vacancies have been filled up following clearance under Annual Direct Recruitment Plan (ADRP). No time frame can be given for filling up the balance vacancies at this stage.

Private entertainment and news channels

1100. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private T.V. entertainment channels and private T.V. news channels functioning in India; and

(b) the number of applications pending for license/permission by Government for starting private entertainment as well as news channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) As on date, Ministry has permitted 381 private satellite TV channels to uplink from India as per uplinking guidelines, out of which, 201 are news and current affairs TV channels and 180 are non-news and current affairs TV channels. Besides this. 67 private satellite TV channels, uplinked from abroad, have also been permitted to downlike in India as per downlinking guidelines. Out of this, 14 are news and current affairs TV channels and 53 are non-news and current affairs TV channels. As such, total number of news and current affairs TV channels is 215 and number of non-news and current affairs TV channels is 233 under uplinking and downlinking guidelines.

(b) As on date, applications of 97 private satellite news and current affairs TV channels and 85 private satellite non-news and current affairs TV channels are at various stages of scrutiny in accordance with the existing uplinking and downlinking guidelines.

Draft code content for TV programmes

1101. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether draft code content submitted by Indian Broadcasting Federation to Government for its approval has categorized television programmes into two classes, one for general viewing and other for restricted viewing;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has agreed that there is an urgent need for content regulation in electronic media;

(c) whether Broadcasters have opposed Government's move to curb electronic media and have written to the Prime Minister;

(d) if so, whether the Prime Minister has put T.V. content regulations on hold; and

(e) if so, by what time final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Recognising the need for content regulation in the electronic media, the Government had constituted a Committee for reviewing the Programme and Advertising Codes (Content Code) prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995 and rules framed thereunder to provide greater specificity to the provisions of the existing codes. The Committee has submitted its Report in the form of Draft Content Code 2008 on 5.3.2008, which is placed on the website of the Ministry ***www.mib.nic.in*** for wider stakeholder consultation.

(c) to (e) A section of broadcasters has opposed regulation by the Government. The Government has given a commitment that any changes in the Cable Television Network rules would be taken up for finalisation only after the widest possible consultation with all concerned stakeholders and eliciting the different points of view on the proposed changes. No time frame has been fixed for the same.

Programmes in Santhali language

1102. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would take a policy decision to broadcast the programmes in Santhali language by Radio and T.V. (Government and Private) in the country;

(b) whether any programme in Santhali language in the country is being broadcast on T.V. and Radio, so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons for not telecasting any programmes in the language of Santhali which is a tribal language; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (e) Prasar Bharati have informed that various Doordarshan